09/857898

rney Docket No.:06854.0017 Customer Number: 22,852

531 Rec'd PCT...

13 JUN 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE UNITED STATE)
In re Application of:)
Tamotsu KATAOKA et al.)) Group Art Unit:
Serial No.: Not yet assigned) Examiner:
40. 2001	ONTAINER NO POTA

National Phase of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP99/06932

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and are in a nonreferenced application.

- Japanese Patent Application No. 62-64363 The relevance of this English language:
- document is discussed at page 1 of the specification of the present application. Japanese Patent Application No. 63-248633 - The relevance of this
 - document is discussed at page 1 of the specification of the present application.

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3. <u>Japanese Patent Application No. 03-277365</u> - The relevance of this document is discussed at page 2 of the specification of the present application.

4. <u>Japanese Patent Application No. 04-266759</u> - The relevance of this document is discussed at page 2 of the specification of the present application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT-& DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:

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Dated: June 13, 2001

Enclosures EFC/FPD/bl